

REMARKS

Claims 1-18, 22 and 24-25 are pending in this application. Claims 19-21 and 23 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 19-21 and 23 have been cancelled for the sole reason of advancing prosecution. Applicants, by cancelling any claims herein, make no admission as to the validity of any rejection made by the Examiner against any of these claims. Applicants reserve the right to reassert any of the claims canceled herein or the original claim scope of any claim amended, in a continuing application.

No new matter has been added.

In view of the following, further and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 1-18, 22 and 24-25 have been found allowable. Solely in order to allow the application to proceed to allowance Applicants have cancelled the remaining claims.

II. At page 3 of the Official Action, claims 21 and 23 have been rejected under 35 USC § 103 as being unpatentable over Dahiyat et al. (of record).

Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection has been rendered moot in view of the cancelation of claims 21 and 23. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this rejection.

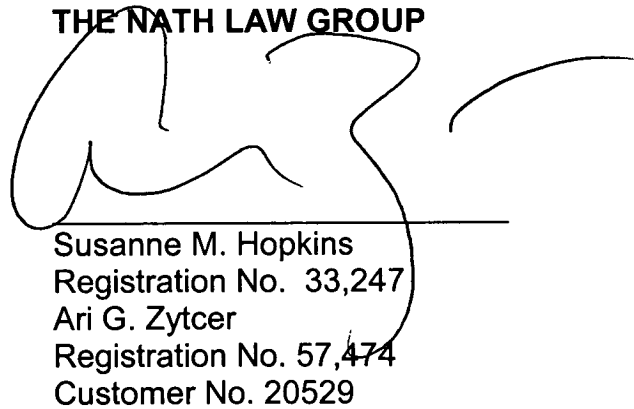
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for immediate allowance. Early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if it is believed that such contact will expedite the prosecution of the application.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, Applicants petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 14-0112.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 30, 2009
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